

**Testimony on behalf of Public Service Commission  
Commissioner Kirk Bushman, District 2 (phone 444-6165)**

In support of

**House Bill 55**

Senate HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION Committee

February 5, 2013

Chairman Arntzen and members of the Committee,

Good afternoon. I am Kirk Bushman, Public Service Commissioner from District 2, which covers 10 counties in the south eastern part of Montana.

I would like to thank Rep. Knudsen for carrying HB 55.

As Rep. Knudsen explained, this is a housekeeping bill and it will not make any substantive changes to the PSC's authority. HB 55 will bring state statutes into conformity with the Commission's current practices and with federal law preempting PSC authority over most motor carriers in Montana.

Specifically, the Federal Aviation Administration Authorization Act of 1994 preempted state regulation of motor carriers transporting property, with the exception of household goods.

HB 55 will eliminate statutory provisions related to the deregulation of motor carrier transportation, such as transportation of buildings and freight, which the PSC no longer has jurisdiction over.

Additionally, the Interstate Commerce Commission has not existed since the mid-1990s, and HB 55 would remove obsolete reporting requirements relating to that entity.

I thank you for your consideration of this bill. The PSC recommends a DO PASS on House Bill 55.